



Date: July 30, 2004
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Carl Kemp, Manager of Public/Governmental Affairs
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report: Weekly Update For Week Ending July 30, 2004

The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending July 30, 2004 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Oil Properties

On June 28, Thums Long Beach Company's 47-megawatt electrical power plant, located in the Port of Long Beach, officially began selling waste heat to the adjacent Georgia Pacific gypsum wallboard plant. This arrangement allows the Thums power plant to now qualify as a cogeneration facility. Georgia Pacific uses the waste heat to dry gypsum wallboard during the manufacturing process. Georgia Pacific has an agreement with Thums to purchase the waste heat at 70 percent of the equivalent BTU (British Thermal Unit) value resulting in substantial energy savings. Whereas previously the plant had completely shut down due largely to high energy costs, this cogeneration arrangement with Thums allows Georgia Pacific to now operate its wallboard plant around the clock, seven days a week, saving dozens of technical jobs.

Community Development, Redevelopment Bureau

The new Union Bank of California - Renaissance Branch opened for business at 1900 Atlantic Avenue on July 26. The branch will offer traditional banking services along with a Cyber Cafe. Operation Hope will run the Cyber Cafe and offer financial literacy classes to community members.

Harbor Department

The largest of the world's largest container ships, China Shipping Container Lines' 8,500-TEU *CSCL Asia*, arrived July 24 for its maiden call at the Port of Long Beach. The newly built *CSCL Asia* is 1,096 feet long, which is longer than three football fields, and 140 feet wide, which is 30 feet wider than the Panama Canal. The *CSCL Asia* can carry enough cargo to completely fill a one million-square-foot regional shopping center with products eight feet high.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Harbor Department

Long Beach is one of the few ports with the deep channels and big shipping terminals capable of handling these mega ships. Southern California's 17 million consumers are the magnet that draws these giant cargo vessels to Long Beach. During this summer of the mega-ships, four other lines have or will be calling with 8,000-TEU ships in Long Beach, including Orient Overseas Container Line (OOCL), China Ocean Shipping Co. (COSCO), CMA CGM and Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC). Of these giants, the China Shipping vessels have the largest declared capacity.

Health and Human Services

On July 26, the new public health mural entitled the "Four Seasons of Health" was unveiled. This four-panel mural was designed to depict residents of Long Beach engaging in activities that promote health. Graphic artist Richard Hoogs designed the piece, which is displayed in the Department's lobby. Staff service pins totaling over 400 years of service to the City were presented at the event.

Police

The Long Beach Police Department is the first agency in the State of California to use a mobile evidential breath alcohol-testing device using infrared technology. The device will allow officers in the field to immediately determine whether a suspected impaired driver can be arrested for drunk driving. The devices were acquired with funds from a California Office of Traffic Safety grant.

Library Services

On July 21, the Long Beach Public Library Foundation held its annual meeting, Summerfest 2004, celebrating its 8th anniversary. Many of the library's programs were recognized, including the Family Learning Centers, Raising a Reader and Homebound Readers' Services. Beth Caswell, the Mystery Maven, announced a Mystery Authors Event that is to be held in November 2004 and Martin Smith, Los Angeles Times Magazine editor, spoke about his most recent book, "Poplorica: A Popular History of the Fads, Mavericks, Inventions and Lore that Shaped Modern America."

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Community Recreation Services Bureau

During the week of **August 3-6**, the Long Beach Municipal Band Roars through the 20s and 30s. The concerts will begin with music of the "Roaring' 20s" dance tunes and conclude with Gershwin, Ellington, and Berlin. Vocalist, Christine Day, will return with the Studio Band's segment to close the evening's remembrances. All concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and are free to the public at the following sites: Tuesday, August 3, Whaley Park North; Wednesday, August 4, Los Cerritos Park; Thursday, August 5, Marine Stadium; and Friday, August 6, El Dorado Park.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS (continued)

Health and Human Services

The Workforce Development Task Force is offering an "Outreach to the Homeless" Training on **Thursday, August 5** from 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. at DHHS. The workshop is designed to help participants learn about the homeless population and how mental health plays a role. This workshop will also enable participants to learn effective outreach strategies.

Library Services, Main Library

On **Saturday, August 7**, the public is invited to a free Latin American Celebration in the Main Library Auditorium. The first event, Latin American Music Concert, is from 2-3 p.m. and features guitar and flute music from Cuba, Spain, Paraguay, Mexico and Argentina. The second event is the opening reception for "Panama Canal: a Pictorial History in Celebration of its 90th Anniversary" including a Ballet Folklorico *Viva Panama* performance, from 3-5 p.m.

The Redevelopment Agency Board agreed to hear presentations from consultants for the preparation of the Independent Study of Redevelopment. The presentations will be made on **Monday, August 9** in the City Council Chambers at the Redevelopment Agency's regularly scheduled meeting.

Library Services, Main Library

An "Author Talk with Photographer George Metivier," is being held on Tuesday, August 10. Mr. Metivier will share photos and experiences from over 40 years of photographing the city for the Port of Long Beach and the City of Long Beach. Bring your lunch for this noon-1 p.m. event held in the Main Library Meeting Room, Lower Level.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Long Beach Energy, Gas Services Bureau

A 100 percent overall satisfaction rating for gas services provided by Long Beach Energy was received for the month of June 2004.

City Manager

The Long Beach waterfront including the Queen Mary, the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Pike at Rainbow Harbor and Shoreline Village, was featured in a full-page article in the August *Sunset Magazine's* Travel, Southern California Day Trip section.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police

Narcotic Division Detectives and West Division Community Policing Officers conducted an undercover operation in the area of 14th Street and Locust Avenue. A search warrant was served on a nearby residence and four arrests for narcotic-related offenses were made.

PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)

Police

The Traffic Section conducted a citywide Driving Under the Influence (DUI) saturation patrol. During the operation, three DUI arrests were made, one felony warrant suspect was arrested, four vehicles were impounded and 62 traffic citations were issued.

A crime suppression task force within the Anaheim Corridor, portions of North Division, and entertainment centers was conducted from July 22 through July 24. There was high police visibility and proactive enforcement in response to recent increases in violent and gang-related crimes. Officers made 22 felony and 80 misdemeanor arrests, issued 94 traffic citations, conducted nearly 200 field interviews, towed 28 vehicles, issued 50 citations for fare evasion (Metro-Line), and 15 citations for nighttime loitering.

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,136 emergency calls for service: 94 calls for fires and 21 calls involving structures. It also responded to 745 emergency medical calls; 504 required paramedics.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

The first day of work for 13 teens began on July 26 as they helped repair the sidewalk on the south side of 15th Street between Atlantic Avenue and Martin Luther King Boulevard. This is the 6th year that the Neighborhood Services Bureau has led the "Summer Sidewalk Project". The youth are being paid by grant funds received by the Youth Opportunity Center.

Community Development, Housing Services Bureau

The Long Beach Housing Development Company held a "First-time Homebuyer Seminar" at Drake Park on July 24. There was a full house with 60 first-time homebuyers learning how to achieve their dream of homeownership.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

The Long Beach Municipal Band performed Big Band Sounds of "1940-1949," with over 5,234 people in attendance throughout the week.

The International Children's Traveling Theatre began its production of "Clean Up Your Act" with 253 youth in attendance. The International City Theater in Long Beach is a professional theater group that partners with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine to make quality theater experience accessible for children and families.

The Long Beach Senior Center and the Los Angeles Area Agency on Aging co-sponsored a free Senior Center Informational Forum on "How Seniors Can Mentor, Foster, and Adopt Older Children" on July 27. Over 50 seniors attended.

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NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau

District Level Youth Advisory Councils (DLYACs) for the 3rd and 7th Council Districts met on July 26. DLYAC participants discussed their involvement in the youth component of the League of California Cities Conference scheduled for September 17-19.

Eight groups, with 2,450 participants, reserved picnic sites in El Dorado East Regional Park this week.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

The annual Long Beach Little Linksters summer introductory golf instruction program for children ages 8 through 13 years was completed at Heartwell Golf Course. Junior Golf Association youth leaders donated their time to teach 80 youngsters who participated in this two-week long program.

Revised plans for the Cesar E. Chavez Park Amphitheater have been received and are being evaluated for construction costs by the contractor. Construction is expected to begin by late August.

Construction plans and specification were completed for the Marine Stadium and Davies Launch Ramp Repair projects.

Library Services and Public Works

Staff met on July 22 with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) consultants to kick off the beginning of the sustainable design work for the new MacArthur Park Branch Library. LEED standards will be used to design and develop plans for a sustainable library building.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fire, Marine Safety Division

California Surf Lifesaving Association Junior Lifeguard Championships were held on July 23. Forty-five teams from California participated with approximately 1,600 competitors, ages 9 – 17, participating in nine events. There were 3,500 - 4,000 spectators. Eighty-five children from the Long Beach JG program earned the right to compete.

California Surf Lifesaving Association Lifeguard Championships were held on July 24. Fourteen teams from California and one team from Hawaii involving 196 competitors, ages 17 – 67, participated. This is a record number. There were approximately 1,000 spectators. Long Beach Lifeguards placed second in the team competition. Several members of the Long Beach team won their events.

The Long Beach Junior Lifeguard Stud Ironman event was held on July 27. This "Run-Swim-Run" the entire length of Long Beach, from the jetty at 1st PI to the jetty at 72nd PI, equals two miles of swimming and four miles of running. Out of 450 Junior Lifeguards, 316 competed and 304 completed the event.

SPECIAL EVENTS (continued)

Fire, Marine Safety Division

Approximately 150 parents competed along with their children and approximately 50 members of the local community, Wilson water polo and swimming teams and local masters swimmers, participated.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

The Colombian Festival, with an estimated attendance of 4,000, was held July 24 and 25 at Queen Mary Events Park.

The Freedom Festival, with an estimated attendance of 1,000, was held on July 25 at Recreation Park.

Jazz by the Bay, with an estimated attendance of 2,500, was held on July 29 at Queen Mary Events Park.

The Tafesilafa'I Festival, with an estimated attendance of 5,000, was held on July 30 and continues through August 1 at Queen Mary Events Park.

The Special Events office also permitted a block party, a wedding, four Long Beach Municipal Band concerts and continues its work on the ICR Marathon.

Three Strikes Productions LLC, with a cast and crew of 75, filmed "State of the Union" on July 26-28 and will continue from August 2-4 at 500 E. Anaheim St.

Got Sports, with a cast and crew of 50, shot "I'd Do Anything" on July 27 at Veteran's Memorial Stadium.

Canterbury Productions, with a cast and crew of 180, shot "Joan of Arcadia" on July 27 and 29 in the Los Cerritos area.

Granite Productions, with a cast and crew of 200, shot "Clubhouse" on July 27-29 at Blair Field.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Long Beach Energy, Gas Services Bureau

Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 2,817 service calls. This total included 876 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 870 Turn Offs. During this period, 797 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 191-meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (a 24/7 operation) received 409 emergency phone calls that resulted in 83 emergency orders being sent out.

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OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE (continued)

Public Works, Street Maintenance

Staff installed 232 sidewalk patches, repaired 364 potholes and trimmed 416 trees citywide.

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